

## Minutes of Meeting

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Time & Date: 7:30pm, Thursday, July 23, 2020

- Zoom Meeting: <https://aiaa.zoom.us/j/93420774394?pwd=QkxWaGhnRDNHNUUpzclM3ZFM1bUo1QT09>
- or call: 877-853-5257 US Toll-free or 888-475-4499 US Toll-free
- Meeting ID: 934 2077 4394, Password: 537740

Attendance: John Blandino, Gary Wolfe, Charlie Wilson, Scott Stadler, David Guo, Mehdi Mortazawy, Bruce Mackenzie, Jeffrey N. Mobed, Joe Vornehm, Moe Z Win, Vik Kachoria, Hiro Endo / Apologies: Umanga Balasuriya

## Opening Remarks & Administration

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### a) Opening Remarks / Administration / General Announcements (Charlie):

- Gary Wolfe (Vice-Chair) will be the primary point person to send out emails to section members through AIAA Engage and will organize our recurring Zoom meetings.
  - a. Manga Balasuriya will assist.
  - b. Kirsner's article gives tips on effective zooming.
- Hiro Endo has the Section's Job Board operating and is our pathfinder for our first Zoom tonight and with Albert Moussa on July 29.
- Charlie spearheading the work to organize Diversity and Inclusion activities.
- University/College Outreach is underway with Mehdi and wisdom from David Willis and John Blandino.
- Hiro is a webmaster for <https://engage.aiaa.org/newengland/home>.

### b) Yearly Report (Scott):

- Almost done.

### c) Budget (Scott & David):

- Due to COVID 19, many 2020 events and activities were canceled. We have a surplus and will spend more this year than last.
- Some ideas:
  - Give out scholarships
    - Contact College faculties & advisors
    - Scholarships for High schoolers, Undergrad, Graduate degree students...
  - Fund student projects:
    - WPI Jet Engine team, WPI Student Rocket Launch – get students to submit a proposal?
  - Give out awards:
    - Is it easy to pick out who gets it? Ask the committee?
    - Fund STEM activities with women engineers' groups, wlack wngineers' groups...
  - Host/fund events (Need ideas)
  - Membership mailing
  - Moe & Vik volunteered to come up with more ideas on how we spend the budget for 2020.
  - HE/JB/MM – Reach out to WPI Jet Engine & Rocket Launch student teams, and encourage them to submit funding proposals.

## Committee Chair & Volunteers:

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- **Outreach for University / College / Institutes (Mehdi)**
  - Mehdi stepped up to lead this position – congrats!
  - David Willis will support & guide Mehdi.
  - Mehdi reached out to student groups, and received replies from all so far...
    - Students looking for funding for projects
      - WPI Rocket Team / Jet Engine Team
      - Funding for conferences
    - Virtual Student Conference (March 2021?)
      - We need to promote the event...
      - Ask for proposals & paper submission – contact student advisors
      - John B recommends Mehdi to e-mail student chapters chairs and advisors. Make sure to CC the message to Faculty advisors.
  
- **Advocacy of Diversity and Inclusion (Charlie)**
  - Charlie driving the initiative now / hoping to pass it on to a new volunteer later.
  - Underrepresented Minorities were discussed by the speakers on the July 15th Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Part I, AIAA Webinar It may be possible to gain entry to these groups – that is being worked Women of Aero Astro (WoAA)
    - Reached out to Rosemary Davidson (MIT Ph.D. student).
    - She contacted Gary earlier about a collaboration between the MIT and WPI chapters.
    - She has several valuable ideas for us to pursue together.

The July 22th Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Part II, AIAA Webinar had speakers from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, the Society of Women Engineers, American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the National Society of Black Engineers. There are several avenues we could pursue, but Rosemary Davidson would be a wonderful beginning.

  - MIT
    - Ed Bertschinger, at MIT, spoke at one of our section events at MITLL. He was the MIT Physics Dept Chair and then became their Institute Community and Equity Officer. He now has an American Physical Society initiative on DI&E that hopes to generate a 10-year strategy. That would be a good topic for a section zoom.
  - MITLL
    - Has appropriate organizations.
  
- **Open Committee Positions – More volunteers wanted!**
  - Advocacy of STEM for pre-college students.
  - Public Policy supporting Phil Hattis at Draper. He is a former Vice-President for Public Policy
  - Honors and Awards Committee.

- Descriptions of the role available – please email Hiro if you’re interested!

## New Services in Development

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### a) Zoom Online Seminars (Gary / Charlie)

- Goals:
  - Develop online seminars - Several members have offered to present.
  - Develop an online get together / talks for student members.
    - Give students professional-level experience, interaction with professional members.
    - Showcase their research (e.g. a video of their talk with an AIAA logo) that they could add to their resume.
    - Michael Lagana (University Programs Coordinator) at HQ thought adding the logo would be possible.
- Expert Presentation & Talks:
  - The first AIAA-NE Zoom talk is scheduled on 7/29 with Dr. Al Moussa: “Fire and Explosion Hazards in Aerospace Systems”
  - Next talk will be with Ian Dargin: “Method and apparatus for removing orbital space debris from near-Earth orbit using the Solar Wind”
  - Candidates & Ideas for future talks:
    - Jeff Sounders: Autonomy Chief Eng Air taxi talk (Gary)
    - Constantine S: 3D metal & composite printing / Additive manufacturing technologies (Gary)
    - Bruce Mackenzie,
    - Elad Kivelevitch: AIAA Intelligent Systems TC
    - BU talk by Anita Sengupta - Perhaps October 15? (Sheryl Grace)
    - Ask WAA to present (contact Rosemary Davidson?)
    - Ask student/student groups to present (WPI Rocket Team, WPI Jet Engine Team, etc...)
    - Zoom Student Chapter Get together (David Guo)
  - **More volunteers wanted!**

### b) AIAA-NE LinkedIn site / Job Board (Hiro)

- The site is up and operating – Added 10 jobs total/copying the ads from Indeed...
- Running a Job Board may be a tough challenge...
  - There are many other online job sites – can’t compete against them...
  - The job market moves fast nowadays, and take a lot of work to keep up with it...
  - Need a focused approach to use the LinkedIn site to be meaningful...
- Hiro re-thinking the focus of the LinkedIn site (more of a community board) to support the section web site on aiaa.org:
  - Focus on posting local job ads for small businesses for graduate & internship positions.
  - Post AIAA-NE Webinar videos.
  - Promote AIAA-NE events and activities.
  - Post-New Letter.
- Plan & Progress:
  - Targeting a formal launch in mid-July (done).

- Post ~10 local jobs (done).
- Launch promotion to get more people to join the site.
  - E-mail blast /Eventbrite.
  - Ask people to recruit others to join the site – people are more likely to join if someone they know invites them... (Joe’s advice).

c) AIAA-NE Website (Hiro)

- Hiro assigned now as a webmaster
- Contact Emily Springer to gain permission to edit the website. Gary also needs permission to send out the emails.

**Professional Activities & Events Planning**

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a) Red Sox Game Social Event (Scott)

- 2020 event was canceled due to COVID19. Revisit the opportunity in 2021.

b) Collings Foundation Event / Student Display / STEM Promotion (Hiro)

- 2020 event was canceled due to COVID19. Revisit the opportunity in 2021.

c) Pratt and Whitney Hanger Museum Tour (Hiro)

- 2020 event was canceled due to COVID19. Revisit the opportunity in 2021.

d) Student Aircraft Event (David W.)

- No update yet... / Assume the activity is on hold until students are back on campus.

e) Jet Engine Project (Hiro & John)

- John B: WPI plans to resume the project in fall 2020.
- Students applied for funding, but there is an uncertainty of getting it due to the COVID... /Students should inquire about AIAA for the funding...
- Students can start working on a programming control system or developing a numerical model of the engines online. Maker Lab is scheduled to open later in the year allowing students to do hands-on work...
- Hiro/John to reach out to the new student leader – get things moving!

**Old Business**

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a) Ordering the giveaway tags for student branches and awards (Scott)

- AIAA property - 1x Table, 20x Water Bottles – Currently they are stored in Scott’s cellar.

**New Business**

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- None